

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT


Routing Slip

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		✓		
2	DDCI		✓		
3	EXDIR		✓		
4	D/ICS		✓		
5	DDI		✓		
6	DDA				
7	DDO				
8	DDS&T		✓		
9	Chm/NIC		✓		
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/EEO				
14	D/Pers				
15	D/OEA				
16	C/PAD/OEA				
17	SA/IA				
18	AO/DCI				
19	C/IPD/OIS				
20					
21					
22					

SUSPENSE _____
Date _____

Remarks:

Ex 
5/17/82
Date

STAT

~~SECRET~~

SYSTEM II
90300

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Executive Registry
82-1392

May 17, 1982

UNCLASSIFIED WITH
SECRET ATTACHMENT

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
THE DIRECTOR, ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AGENCY

SUBJECT: M-X Program (NSDD 35)

The President has approved the attached National Security Decision Directive on the M-X program.

FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Will. Clark
William P. Clark

Attachment

NSDD 35

cc: The Director of Central Intelligence

UNCLASSIFIED WITH
~~SECRET~~ ATTACHMENT

MAY 17 4 25 PM '82

ER

L-117

NSDD 35

~~SECRET~~

SYSTEM II

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2011/05/17 : CIA-RDP90B01013R000100080002-7 90300

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET

May 17, 1982

*National Security Decision
Directive Number 35*

THE M-X PROGRAM

NSDD-12 outlined the overall U.S. Strategic Forces Modernization Program. Item 5 of that Directive included specific guidance on M-X which is herewith amended as follows.

Land-Based Missile Development

Development of M-X will be completed and sufficient units produced to support 100 operational missiles. All work will be stopped on the Multiple Protective Shelter basing for M-X.

It is absolutely essential that we maintain the momentum of the M-X program and that we achieve Initial Operational Capability in 1986.

A DOD recommendation for a permanent basing mode for M-X shall be provided to me by November 1, 1982. Every effort should be made to provide me the DOD recommendation by September 15, 1982. If the September date is met, I will try to reach a decision by October 1. In any event, I expect to take a decision on M-X basing and so advise Congress by December 1, 1982. In this connection, the following guidance is provided:

A. Closely Spaced Basing, with growth potential for defensible/deceptive basing appears to be the most promising route to pursue.

B. R&D on Deep Underground Basing will continue because of its application to a secure reserve force, its potential for survivable C³ facilities, and its synergism with Closely Spaced Basing.

C. R&D on Ballistic Missile Defense will also continue to hedge against Soviet ABM breakout, to assist us in evaluating Soviet BMD activity, and to provide an option for increasing M-X survivability. The use of our existing BMD technology would work well to help protect a Closely Spaced Basing Field.

SECRET

Review May 17, 1988

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

SECRET

2

D. Continuous Patrol Aircraft shall not be viewed as an option for the permanent basing of M-X. R&D on long endurance, large aircraft for other applications may continue, consistent with Congressional legislation.

E. Until the end of Fiscal Year 1982, the basing of M-X in Minuteman silos will remain an integral part of the program as a hedge against unforeseen technical developments and future program changes. Level of effort will be minimized, consistent with orderly resumption of the interim basing program in Fiscal Year 1983 if necessary.

F. While each leg of the strategic nuclear triad should be as survivable as possible, the existence of all three precludes the destruction of more than one by surprise attack and guards against technical surprise which could similarly remove one leg of the Triad.

In the upcoming START environment, an M-X program in being is more vital than ever. M-X is not intended as a "bargaining chip" to trade off against heavy missiles but rather a long-term offset to existing Soviet medium missiles.

This NSDD supersedes the appropriate portions of NSDD-12.



SECRET